

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a general description of the paper. It consists of five components such as the background of the research, statement of the problem, research objective, research significance and definition of the key terms.

1.1 Background of the Research

Romance is a genre commonly found in popular literature. It can be defined as a fictional narrative, whether in the form of poetry or prose, that recounts the unlikely adventures of idealized characters situated in a distant or enchanting setting. In a broader sense, it represents a departure from realism within the realm of fiction. In more stringent academic terminology, romance is a narrative genre in literature that encompasses mysterious, adventurous, or spiritual plots. Its primary focus is on a courageous quest and the embodiment of strong values, not strictly limited to a romantic love interest. Nevertheless, the contemporary definition of romance has evolved to encompass stories where relationships take center stage as the primary focus of the narrative.

The definition characterizes romance as a love story that primarily revolves around the progression and eventual fulfillment of a romantic relationship between two central characters. It is crafted to immerse the reader in a vicarious emotional experience, particularly in the courtship journey. There are two keys to romance fiction according to Joyce G Saricks. First, the plot rotates around the love relationship and its happy ending, and everything else is secondary. Second these stories are told in such a way that the reader participates in the ending of the novel (Saricks, 2009). Readers engage at an emotional level and derive genuine contentment from emotionally gratifying resolutions. While other genres may incorporate romantic elements, those who appreciate romance will also find enjoyment in these narratives.

A movie is a form of artistic creation presented through the medium of moving images, within which scenes portray a narrative. Films serve as a means to communicate various messages to the audience by means of storytelling. They also function as a channel for artistic expression, providing a platform for artists and filmmakers to express their concepts and story ideas. Fundamentally and substantially, movies possess a compelling influence that can affect society's communicative processes. A movie typically follows a storyline, often referred to as a screenplay or film script. A screenplay is a written document containing a story or concept meticulously crafted to be both engaging and effective when conveyed through the cinematic medium. A screenplay is a well-organized and prepared narrative that is in a form ready for production. It involves structuring the story to conform to standard formats, typically adhering to a minimum length of ninety minutes or one and a half hours for a movie script. The narrative within a movie script is crafted in a cinematic manner, signifying that as the script is read, the descriptions should vividly allow the reader to visualize the film. Given that a screenplay primarily serves as a working document in the filmmaking industry, the descriptive elements need to be concise and efficient, providing a quick understanding and promptly conjuring the movie scenes within the reader's mind.

Romance movies today have modernized, and the rules are more flexible than ever before. This genre has also become one of the most desirable and popular. An example of a well-received romance movie that belongs to popular literature is "After" (2019). Radway in his book writes the Cawelti's formula as a narrative structure. Based on his research on the Smithton women, he composes a narrative structure of an ideal romance based on the relationship between the hero and the heroine. The narrative structure expressed by Radway (1982) refers to the transformation of the heroine from a condition of isolated, asexual, and insecure maturity development to the condition of a woman who is mature, sensual, and married person who realizes her potential and identity as a partner of a man and as a

mother of a child. The narrative structure of ideal romance is as follows: (1) The heroine's social identity is destroyed. (2) The heroine reacts antagonistically to an aristocratic male. (3) The aristocratic male responds ambiguously to the heroine. (4) The heroine interprets the hero's behavior as evidence of a purely sexual interest in her. (5) The heroine responds to the hero's behavior with anger or coldness. (6) The hero retaliates by punishing the heroine. (7) The heroine and hero are physically and/or emotionally separated. (8) The hero treats the heroine tenderly. (9) The heroine responds warmly to the hero's act of tenderness. (10) The heroine reinterprets the hero's ambiguous behavior as the product of previous hurt. (11) The hero proposes/openly declares his love for/demonstrates his unwavering commitment to the heroine with a supreme act of tenderness. (12) The heroine responds sexually and emotionally. (13) The heroine's identity is restored.

Based on the discussion above, the researcher is interested in discussing the formula of romance movies in *After* (2019). There are some reasons why the researcher chose these movies. Because *After* is a romantic movie, it is relevant to the research and theory used. In this case, the movie *After*, written by Anna Todd, can be classified as popular literature. This can be seen from the public interest that made the novel adapted into a movie with the same title in 2019, directed by Jenny Gage and rewritten by Susan McMartin, Tamara Chesta, and Jenny Gage. *After* is a romance that exposes the struggles of love and character growth by depicting the conflicts that often occur in relationships and dealing with difficult pasts. The movie stirs the audience's emotions by exploring themes such as confidence, forgiveness, and self-discovery through love.

After tells the story of a teenage romance named Tessa Young, an innocent and ambitious college student, starting her new life in college. When Tessa arrives on campus, she meets Hardin Scott, a mysterious man with a sharp gaze and a rough demeanor. Although they don't like each other at first, slowly, the two begin to gravitate towards each other. Tessa, who has lived with strict rules and expectations, finds herself captivated by Hardin's wild and surprising side. They embark on a relationship full of turmoil and intensity, facing challenges and conflicts that arise in their romance. The movie depicts Tessa and Hardin's journey of navigating love, complicated relationships, and discovering their respective identities. Tessa must choose between living a familiar life or daring to enter a wilder and more unpredictable world with Hardin. At the beginning of 'After,' there is an introduction that discusses how specific moments in one's life appear to shape an individual. From that point onward, the clichés continue to unfold. If there is a pivotal moment in Tessa Young's it is either when she meets, initially feels irritated by, falls in love with, experiences heartbreak with, or reunites with Hardin Scott. Therefore, the researcher will discuss about The Ideal Romance Formula in After (2019) using the theory of the ideal formula of romance by Janice A. Radway and romance formula by Cawelty theory. And researchers chose to analyze films because films offer a wide variety of styles and aspects that can be explored by researchers. Watching movies also has significant benefits because researchers can learn from various aspects, especially from the intrinsic elements. Important elements in prose include characterization, theme, plot, setting, and point of view. These elements are referred to as intrinsic elements because they are interrelated with each other without these intrinsic elements, a literary work will not have the power to stand alone.

Characterization refers to developing and portraying the characters in a literary work, such as a novel or film. It involves creating distinct and believable individuals with unique personalities, traits, and motivations. Through characterization, authors bring their characters to life, allowing readers or viewers to form a connection with them and understand their thoughts, feelings, and actions.

Character is an essential attribute that individuals possess, and it is evident that each person has unique characteristics that distinguish them from others. In the context of the film, the character plays a crucial role as it influences the development and progression of the storyline success or failure of a movie often hinges on the portrayal of its characters are a contemporary form of artistic expression that has rapidly evolved the can be considered a form of literature, particularly in the realm of modern drama films draw inspiration from various genres found in literature and entertainment mediums Ultimately, movies serve as a means to divert people's attention from everyday problems and offer a solution to combat boredom Despite this, films still contain moral values that the author or filmmaker intends to convey.

Plot is the main element in a story or narrative. It is a series of events arranged in a specific order, which forms the narrative framework of the story. The plot covers what happens in the story, how those events develop, and how problems and conflicts are faced and solved. The plot is an important element in maintaining the reader's or audience's interest in a story because, through the plot, the story develops and reveals the message or theme intended by the author or storyteller. The plot also provides a coherent structure to maintain the cohesion of the story and helps direct attention to the most important events in the story.

In this research, the author tries to focus on analyzing romance genre films that analyze romance formulas through characterization and plot in a film. Plot and characterization Without genre in a movie, the story will not live. Romance movies usually have a beautiful plot in a happy love story. Therefore, the author chose a romance formula through characterization and romance in the plot because the author is interested in analyzing based on the film.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

From the research background above, the researcher concluded that there are two question that will be the main focus of this research, namely:

1. How does the plot construct a romance formula in *After*?
2. Howdoes the characters construct romance formula in *After*?

1.3 Research Objective

1. To find out theplot of *After* movie that constructs the romance formula.
2. To find out the characters of *After* movie that constructs the romance formula.

1.4 Research Significance

The researcher holds *After* by Anna Todd in high regard as both a literary work and its movie adaptation. This research aims to introduce a fresh contribution, particularly within the realm of literary studies on romance. Its significance can be categorized into theoretical and practical aspects. The theoretical significance lies in enriching the ongoing discourse in the examination of romance formula literature, offering insights, especially to enthusiasts of romantic films and Anna Todd's works in both cinematic and novel formats. This research is anticipated to facilitate a better comprehension of Anna Todd's creative output. On a practical level, it is expected to serve as a valuable resource for literary scholars and aspiring researchers, particularly English Literature students, who may find it beneficial when exploring similar

discussions regarding the romance formula. For readers, it has the potential to kindle a deeper appreciation for literary works. For researchers, it can contribute to their knowledge in the realm of literary studies and popular literature, serving as a reference for others who may wish to analyze *After* from an alternative perspective.

1.5 Previous Study

The research deals with previous research but has differences in some object matters. The previous studies prove that the researcher has the previous references due to considering the analysis.

The first previous research is a thesis from Nurlaeli (2022) with the title "Romance Formula in *All The Boys I've Love Before* (2018)" in 2022 from UIN SunanGunungDjati University Bandung. This previous research was taken because it is related to one of the research topics, namely the Romance Formula. In this study, Nurlaeli analyzed what formulas were presented to make the film a romance genre based on what was in her research related to the research topic.

The second previous research is a thesis from Rutyamsun Vidi (2023) entitled "Romance Formula in *Forrest Gump* Movie (1994)" by Robert Zemeckis's in 2023 from UIN SunanGunungDjati University Bandung. This previous research was taken because it is related to the research topic, namely the Romance Formula. In this study, Vidi paid attention to the formula presented to make this movie a romance genre based on characterization research in *Forrest Gump* (1994).

The third previous research is a thesis from Nanda Amelia Handaeni(2022) with the title "The Transformation of Characters and Plot in Novel *if Beale Street Could Talk*" from UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. This previous research was taken because it was related to several research topics, namely plot and characterization. In this study, Handaeni analyzed what caused the change of characters in the film's plot by using the elements of character and characterization and plot based on what is in her research related to the research topic.

The fourth previous research is a thesis from M. Ghifar Aufa Al Mujafar(2020) entitled "The Romance Formula Through Plot and Characterization in the Novel Me Before You" in 2020 from UIN SunanGunungdjati University Bandung. This previous research was taken because it was related to the research topic. In this study, Al Mujafar analyzed what formula is presented so that it becomes a romance genre. Characterization, how characters are presented in the romance genre in the novel, and how the plot is presented to bring the storyline to life based on what is in his research related to the research topic.

The fifth previous research is a thesis from Eviliana Wilda (2022) entitled "Romance Formula Crazy Rich Asian Movie (2018)" by John M Chu in 2019 from UIN SunanGunungDjati University Bandung. This previous research was taken because it is related to the research topic. The research examines how the romance formula is presented based on what is in the research related to the research topic.

The sixth previous research is a journal from Novindia Nurratnasari (2015) entitled "Romance Formula Fault in our Stars" by John Green in 2015 from the Department of Cultural Literature and English Language Diponegoro University Semarang. This previous research was taken because it was related to the research topic. The research describes the formulas that exist in popular literary novels. The results of the analysis show that the novel contains elements of popular literary formulas, namely the hero and heroine characters and the plot of the romance story that is built, which is the focus and the character who is compared to the hero in the romance story.

The seventh previous research is a thesis from Dini Nur Fauziah(2022)entitled "Characteristics of the main character in the movie The Girl in the Basement" by Elizabeth Rohm in 2022 from UIN SunanGunungDjati Bandung. This previous research was taken because it was related to the research topic. The research analyzes

the characterization of the first character and uses the romance formula theory, which is related to the research to be studied.

The eight previous research is a thesis from Faza Aaulidiadina Nuryawandhana(2020) entitled "Romance Formula in Webtoon My Prewedding" by Nihisfari in 2020 from UIN SunanGunungDjati Bandung. This previous research was taken because it is related to the same research topic using the same Cawelti romance formula theory, but what is different is that Nuryawandhana examines objects sourced from webtoon or digital comic reading, while my research is a movie.

The ninth research was conducted by Esty DiliyaniResfayanda (2017) the title "The Ideal Formula of Romance Represented in the Novel The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks." In this study, the researcher used Radway's theory of the ideal formula in romance, which consists of thirteen narrative functions. Based on her research, the novel The Notebook can be categorized as having an ideal romance formula. This is supported by the fact that the romance formula in The Notebook is Pamela's Formula, which is one type of romance formula, and has ten of the thirteen narrative functions considered ideal in the romance genre.

The tenth research was conducted by Rohmawati, Dwi(2013) and Yeny Prastiwi, in 2018, titled "Family Conflict Reflected in the Film Crazy Rich Asians (2013) by Kevin Kwan: A Sociological Approach". This research aims to describe the family conflict analysis reflected in the novel Crazy Rich Asians. This research uses a sociological approach in its analysis. Researcher used two data sources, namely primary data and secondary data. The primary data used is from the novel Crazy Rich Asians, written by Kevin Kwan in 2013. In comparison, secondary data are supporting data sources such as literature books, websites, dictionaries, journals, and articles related to the novel. This research is a qualitative research that uses the content analysis method. The data analysis process is done by categorizing the data to obtain results and conclusions. The results of this study show that there is a conflict

involving five main characters in the story. This novel describes the conflicts that occur in a large family.

The eleventh previous research Eripudin(2017) conducted the thirteenth previous research with the title "Analysis of Plot and Setting in the Film The Jungle Book" in the English Education Study Program at FKIP PasirPengaraian University. This research focuses on analyzing the plot and setting of the movie The Jungle Book. The research data were obtained from the storyline and background in the movie, which was taken from the movie itself and also from internet sources. The steps in analyzing data include data collection, data analysis, and presentation of analysis results. The data collection method used is observation, while data analysis is carried out using Guerin's theory of formalism criticism. This research differs from previous studies in terms of methods and objects analyzed. This study focuses on the analysis of The Jungle Book, while the previous study analyzed the script of The Shape of Water and focused more on character analysis. However, the similarity between the two studies is the use of the same object, namely storyline analysis. Titled "Analysis of Plot and Setting in the Film The Jungle Book" in the English Education Study Program at FKIP PasirPengaraian University. This research focuses on analyzing the plot and setting of the movie The Jungle Book. The research data were obtained from the storyline and background in the movie, which was taken from the movie itself and also from internet sources. The steps in analyzing data include data collection, data analysis, and presentation of analysis results. The data collection method used is observation, while data analysis is carried out using Guerin's theory of formalism criticism. This research differs from previous studies in terms of methods and objects analyzed. This study focuses on the analysis of The Jungle Book, while the previous study analyzed the script of The Shape of Water and focused more on character analysis. However, the similarity between the two studies is the use of the same object, namely storyline analysis.

1.6 Definition of the Key Terms

In this research, some terms often appear to prevent misunderstanding. The researcher explains each term's meaning:

- a. **Literary formula** the literary formula generally refers to the narrative framework or dramatic conventions used in various individual works, just like Cawelti mention in his book, there are two common uses of the term "formula" that are closely related to the conception I want to explain. Combining these two conceptions, we can achieve an adequate definition of literary formula (Cawelti, p. 5)
- b. **Romance** the defining characteristic of romance is not solely based on featuring a female character, but rather on the central development of a love relationship, typically between a man and a woman. Unlike adventure stories and mysteries, where the main focus is often the hero's triumph over obstacles or the resolution of a mystery, romance revolves around the growth and progression of a romantic connection. While adventure stories may include a love interest, it is usually subordinate to the hero's journey and challenges. In contrast, romances frequently incorporate elements of adventure, but the dangers and obstacles serve to test and solidify the love relationship. In summary, while romance often includes elements of adventure, its distinguishing factor is the primary focus on the development of a love relationship, usually between a man and a woman (Cawelti p. 41).
- c. **Narrative Structure of the Ideal Romance Formula:** An ideal romance unfolds when women who are intelligent, self-reliant, and possess a good sense of humor are eventually won over by a man's love. This transformation occurs after considerable doubt, suspicion, and even some conflict. The man, who is intelligent, gentle, and adept at humor, undergoes a change during their relationship. He evolves from being emotionally reserved and uneducated to

someone who can provide care and support in a manner that is typically associated with the role of a woman in a traditional sense (Radway, 1982).

- d. Popular literature** refers to a genre of written works that are widely consumed and enjoyed by a large audience. It encompasses various forms of fiction, including novels, short stories, poetry, and plays, that are intended to entertain, engage, and resonate with a broad readership.
- e. Film** further explains that films are considered literary works, and the history of literary works heavily influences film history. With the presence of narration or storytelling, the principles of literature can be applied to films. Films capture action, imagery, and dialogue that emulate real-life experiences. The film industry encompasses various genres such as Western, science fiction, horror, detective, mystery, adventure, thriller, and romance.
- f. Characterization** is a way of creating character and portrayal of characterisation can be seen from the character's thoughts, the character physique and what the character say and think about him self.
- g. Plot** is a series of events that occur in a literary work, movie, or drama which from the storyline. The plot involves the development of characters, conflicts, and the resolution of the problem that occur in the narrative.